

## **Attachment 1**

### **Reported Early Syphilis Infections in Kansas Between 01-01-2006 and 12-31-2006**

Kansas Department of Health and Environment  
Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention  
STD Section

## **Reported Early Syphilis Infections in Kansas between 01-01-06 and 12-31-2006**

### **State Summary:**

Kansas had 43 reported early syphilis cases (infections less than 12 months duration) in calendar year (CY)2006. This was a six case (16 %) increase compared to CY2005. Twenty-nine of the 43 (67%) total early syphilis cases reported in CY2006 resided in Wyandotte and Johnson Counties. Wyandotte reported 9 cases (21%) and Johnson reported 20 cases (46%). There were four early syphilis cases in Sedgwick County and three each in Shawnee and Crawford Counties. There were two cases in Leavenworth County and one each in Franklin and Seward Counties.

From the 43 early syphilis interviews DIS were able to elicit 213 sexual partners and initiate 132 of these sexual partners for investigation. Additionally, DIS investigated 41 individuals in social networks (clusters) surrounding these cases. (Some individuals are deemed at risk for syphilis and are investigated but are not sexual contacts to syphilis cases.) From the 43 early syphilis cases 173 sexual partners and clusters (4.0 individuals per case) were initiated for investigation. DIS identified five new early syphilis infections from these investigations.

Whites accounted for 70% (30 cases) of the early syphilis cases in CY2006. African-Americans accounted for 20% (9 cases) of the reported early syphilis cases. American Indians and Hispanics, with no race elicited, each accounted for two cases or 5% of the early syphilis cases for CY2006.

The male to female ratio of the 43 early syphilis cases in Kansas for CY2006 was 1:0.2 (36:7). The ratio is weighted heavily towards males due to the high percentage of cases among the men that reported having sex with men (MSM).

Sixteen percent (7) of the early syphilis cases were diagnosed through public providers. Within the MSM outbreak, individuals typically were urban, white, affluent and seeking diagnosis and treatment at their private medical provider's office.

The median age of an individual infected with early syphilis in Kansas for CY2006 was 38 years of age with the age range of 18 to 67 years of age. During the CY2006, 44% (19 cases) of the early syphilis cases were reported in individuals over 40 years of age. Sixteen percent (7 cases) were reported in the 35-39 age group and 14% (6 cases) were reported in the 20-24 age group. Twelve percent (5 cases) were reported in the 30-34 age group and nine percent (4 cases) in the 25-30 age group. There was five percent or two cases in the 15-19 age group.

There was one presumptive congenital syphilis case reported in Kansas in CY2006. The mother presented at an emergency room because her baby stopped moving. The ER identified a fetus at approximately 26 weeks gestation that was deceased. The mother received no prenatal care during the pregnancy. She was diagnosed as an early latent syphilis case and interviewed. From this interview the father of the baby was found and examined. He was diagnosed with early latent syphilis and was a probable source for her infection. The father's sexual contacts were all out of state.

#### Men That Have Sex with Men (MSM) Outbreak:

Early syphilis cases diagnosed in men that have sex with men (MSM) as well as co-infections with HIV was a continuing trend in Kansas for CY2006. Since this outbreak began in the second half of 2004, 63 MSM have been diagnosed with early syphilis. Of those 63 men, 32 (51%) were co-infected with HIV.

In CY2006 there were a total of 43 reported early syphilis cases in Kansas of which 29 (67%) were MSM. The MSM Outbreak is concentrated around men who frequent social/sexual networks out of the state, particularly in Kansas City, MO. In CY2006, 23 of the 29 (76%) MSM early syphilis cases reported in Kansas resided in either Wyandotte or Johnson Counties. Both these counties are adjacent to Kansas City, MO.

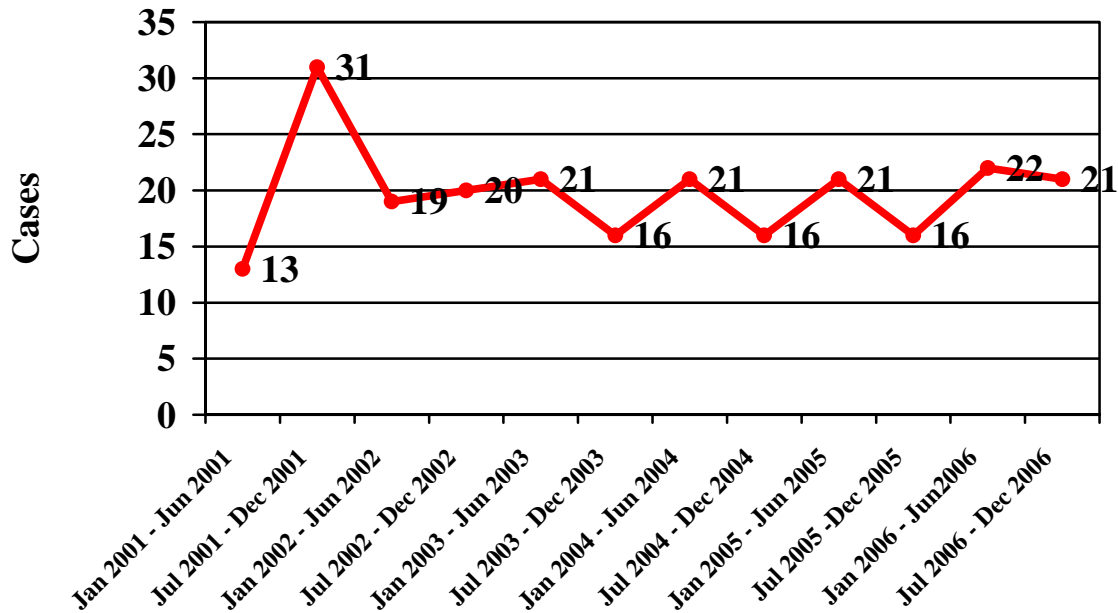
Of the 43 total early syphilis cases, 27 (63%) were diagnosed as primary or secondary (P&S) cases. Twenty-three (85%) of the 27 P&S cases were diagnosed in MSM. Nineteen (70%) of the P&S cases resided in either Wyandotte or Johnson Counties.

There were 15 early syphilis cases co-infected with HIV reported in Kansas in CY2006; all were MSM. Fifty-two percent (15/29) of syphilis cases diagnosed in MSM were co-infected with HIV.

Early syphilis interviews and investigation of MSM have historically been non-productive due to insufficient locating information and anonymous sexual encounters. Men in Kansas have begun to go to the Internet to find sex partners. Other than screen names, these men usually remain anonymous to one another through their encounter. DIS in Kansas were able to overcome these obstacles in CY2006 by using new investigative techniques such as investigating all individuals with any marginal information and going to websites where these marginal individuals (very little locating information) were on the Internet and contacting them through their screen names.

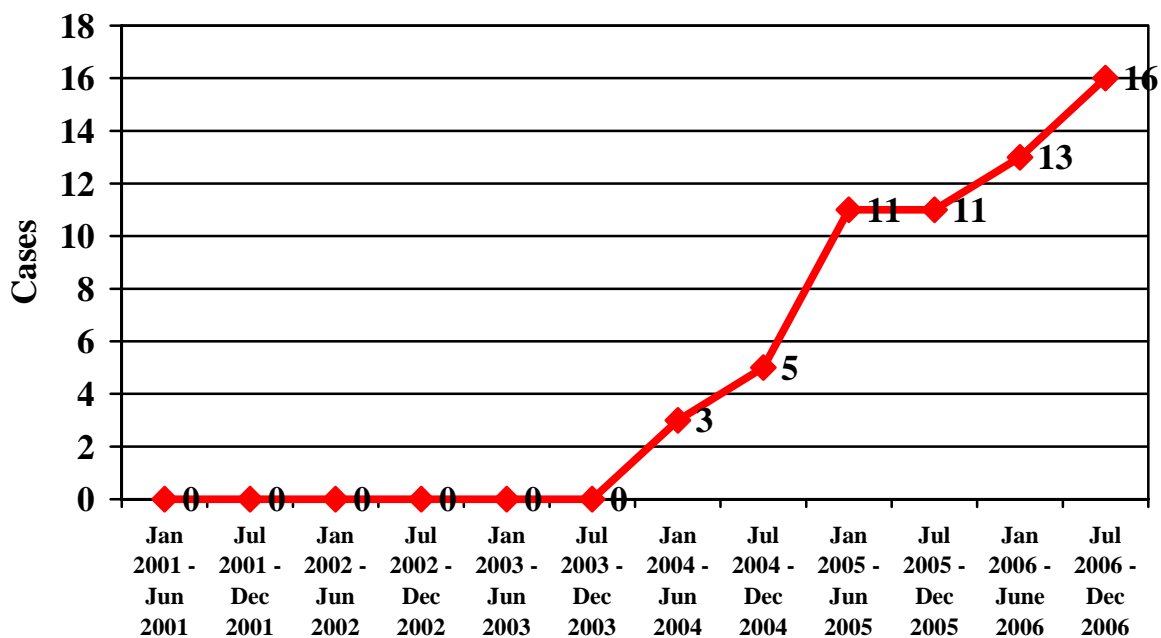
# Total Early Syphilis in Kansas

January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2006



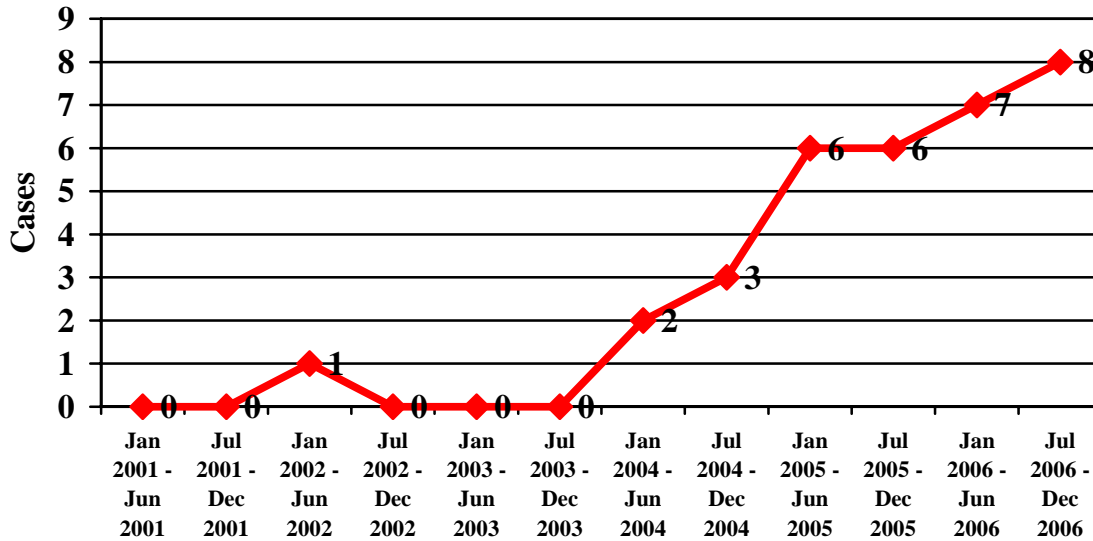
# MSM Early Syphilis in Kansas

January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2006



## Early Syphilis in Kansas Co-infected with HIV

January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2006



## Total/MSM/HIV Co-infected Early Syphilis in Kansas

January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2006

